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Palestine  
King Abdullah's position  
Position of the Mufti  
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The following, dated May 7th, is from our source [ ] and is based on remarks made by the Lebanese President. The first two paragraphs are confirmed by our source POM from the Syrian Minister of the Interior.

(i) A conference was held in Damascus on May 5th and attended by President Kuwatli of Syria, Azzam Pasha, the Syrian and Lebanese Prime Ministers, the Transjordan Foreign Minister and the Defence Ministers of the Lebanon, Syria and Iraq. The Mufti joined the conference later.

(ii) A serious divergence of views arose over the latest American proposal for a truce and prolongation of the British mandate by ten days. Azzam Pasha, with the Syrian and Lebanese delegates, was strongly in favour of the proposal provided the British kept the Jews from gaining strategic positions. The Transjordan and Iraqi delegates were opposed to it.

(iii) Fawzi Kalki, the Transjordan Foreign Minister, telephoned to King Abdullah for instructions and was told to return immediately to Amman. King Abdullah is firmly resolved to invade Palestine on May 16th with Iraqi support.

2. The following is from an established Palestine Arab source, who has good contacts in the Mufti's entourage.

(i) At the conference reported above the Mufti was ignored by all parties.

(ii) He had previously sent an emissary, Doctor Rushdi Tamini, to King Abdullah to prepare the way for reconciliation, but President Kuwatli has since advised him against a meeting with Abdullah.

(iii) The Mufti has now summoned ten of his loyal supporters to Damascus in order to discuss their attitude towards Abdullah and the possibility of forming an Arab Government in Palestine.

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